Execution of Kudankulam Nuclear Energy Project

2583. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the stage of execution of the Kudankulam Nuclear Energy Project under the Russian aid;

(b) the ratio of the amount spent till now on this project by the Russian and Indian Governments;

(c) whether there is any opposition from the local people with regard to the land acquisition and compensation and fear about the disposal of the nuclear waste; and

(d) if so, what steps government propose to take on their fear?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) As a first step for the implementation of the project, the land acquisition for the project and the site investigations have been completed. The Preliminary Safety Analysis Report (PSAR) prepared by Russian side is under advanced stage of review by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). The development of first phase of infrastructure at site, construction of township and the desalination plant for water supply etc. have been undertaken. The Russian side has submitted the Techno-commercial Offer (TCO) for the implementation of the project. Discussions and negotiations on the TCO have been completed. A proposal to get financial sanction and approval of the Government of India is under process.

(b) As of March 2001, out of the total expenditure of Rs. 254.98 crore, incurred for this project, about 68% has been provided by the Government of Russian Federation out of the State Credit. Balance 32% has been spent by NPCIL from Government Equity/Loan.

(c) and (d) The land acquired for Kudankulam project is non- agricultural barren land with no inhabitants and therefore there has been no displacement of the local people in the process of land acquisition. The land was acquired by Government of Tamil Nadu for the Department of Atomic Energy/Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited and title of the acquired land has been passed on to NPCIL.

DAE/NPCIL has been conducting various public awareness programmes through lectures, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, study tours to the operating nuclear plants etc. to educate and inform the local public about the safety of the Kudankulam project and the response from the local public is supportive for the project.

Contaminated water in the water tanks of Super Bazar

2584. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state: